

TOPIC Military Information from Plauen

REPORT NO.

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 20 October to 4 November 1952

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 26 November 1952

REFERENCES

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REMARKS

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1. Local residents stated that, after the termination of the maneuvers, the troops returned to their barracks installations in Plauen on 24 October 1952. During the period from 25 October to 4 November, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Neuendorfer Strasse was again occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 20 October, 60 recruits with black-bordered crimson epaulets arrived. Beginning 26 October, training activity was again observed. On 20 October, four trucks occupied by troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and including two towing 120-mm mortars entered the barracks installation, coming from the Kobitzschwalde training grounds. A total of 600 soldiers organized in 3 detachments and including 110 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 260 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets left the Kobitzschwalde training grounds by road. On 31 October, two details totaling 415 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets left the barracks installation. On 4 November, about 120 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and including about 70 officers departed from the railroad station. Source overheard a conversation according to which the shipment was bound for the U.S.S.R. leaving and entering the installation.

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2. During the period from 25 October to 4 November, the Koenig Georg Kaserne on Neuendorfer Strasse was again occupied to capacity by about 1,000 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 31 October, 250 troops were drilling in the barracks yard, while others practiced with 3 AT guns. Motor vehicles seen going to, and returning from, the Koenig Georg Kaserne and the Hindenburg Kaserne,

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3. On 4 November, the Kirchbach Kaserne between Zadera Strasse and Kopernikus Strasse was occupied by about 300 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia. A second quartering building which had been reconditioned during the preceding days was occupied by troops. Part of the troops messed in the Hindenburg Kaserne. Eight trucks, [redacted] were in the barracks yard. The inscriptions OBB and HAB were seen over and under a window of the guardhouse respectively.<sup>2</sup>

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1. [redacted] Comment. The 112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt stationed in the Hindenburg Kaserne and the 87th Gun Arty Regt of the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div stationed in the Koenig Georg Kaserne with the bulk of the division participated in the fall maneuvers of the Eighth Gds Army in the Dessau-Wiesenburg area. Part of the units of the division stationed in Plauen had returned to their post from the training area on 10 October. [redacted] however, reported two shipments of units of the division passing through Guesten (M 52/D 66) on 23 October, which may be in connection with the return of other elements of the division on 24 October mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present report. The strength figure of 4,000 troops for the two regiments is too high. No other units of the division are carried in Plauen.

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2. [redacted] Comment. This partly damaged installation, after recent reconditioning, appears to have been occupied by another unit in addition to the signal unit, probably of the GDFG, which is carried in the Kirchbach Kaserne. Motor vehicle [redacted] belong to army troops of the First Gds Mecz Army. They were repeatedly observed in Dresden and Plauen.

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